



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



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CITY OF WOODSTOCK PARKS

With the winter of 2013-2014 behind us at last, the **Parks Division** is preparing our sports facilities for spring play. The Division received fourteen (14) tons of Turface MVP and Turface Quick Dry on Thursday, March 27, and stored all material in our pole barn at Emricson Park.

At the present time, the baseball, softball, and soccer fields are thawing out at a slow rate due to the unseasonably cool temperatures. We are looking forward to the warmer temperatures in the forecast; however, crews will need to fight the remaining frost coming out of the ground. This thawing will cause muddy and unplayable conditions. At Emricson Park crews were able to stripe both the South Street and Bigelow Field soccer fields. The baseball and softball diamonds are still too wet for any prep work.

For the week of March 31, there were a total of seven fields scheduled for play by District 200, as weather permitted.

Also, the water has been turned on in the restrooms at Emricson Park and Bates Park, and the drinking fountains are in full operation at Main Pavilion & Hilltop Pavilion in Emricson.

Think Spring!



LIQUOR LICENSE HOLDER MEETINGS HELD

On Thursday, April 3rd, **Chief Robert Lowen** held the annual mandatory meeting for all Liquor License Holders in the City of Woodstock. Chief Lowen offered two sessions in an effort to accommodate the business owner's schedules. Owners and managers of each establishment are required to attend each year; their employees are strongly encouraged to do so as well.

Chief Lowen began each meeting with a brief but concise overview of local liquor laws. He highlighted closing times; prohibited activity; underage patrons; and sting operations.

Cindy Smiley, Executive Assistant to the Liquor Commissioner, **Mayor Brian Sager**, went over the liquor license application process. She stressed due dates, fees, and the importance of updating owner, manager, and contact information for establishments holding liquor licenses.

The guest speaker at both sessions was Lee Roupas from the Illinois Liquor Control Commission and the head of their BASSET Program (a training program for all those who serve liquor.) He spoke of the importance of identification checks and recognizing over-served patrons and shared many anecdotal stories from his own experience to illustrate his points.

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SPRING HYDRANT FLUSHING BEGINS

The City's Department of Public Works is flushing hydrants again this spring as preventive maintenance. You should not wash clothes when hydrants in your area are scheduled for flushing. Hydrants will be flushed Monday through Friday for a three week period beginning Monday, April 14; schedule follows:

All hydrants west of IL Route 47
April 14 through April 23

All hydrants east of IL Route 47
April 24 through May 2

No scheduled hydrant flushing will take place on Saturdays or Sundays.

If you have any questions regarding hydrant flushing, or when flushing will occur in your neighborhood, please contact the Department of Public Works at 815-338-6118, or via e-mail at pwdept@woodstockil.gov.



NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK



This week, April 7 – April 11 was National Work Zone Awareness Week. Each year in April, National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) is held to bring national attention to motorist safety, worker safety, and mobility issues in work zones. 2014 marks the 11th year of NWZAW; statistics show that there has been a decrease in work zone fatalities each year since, proving that the effort is having a positive effect on safety.

Some of the goals of NWZAW are to increase awareness for greater caution and care while driving through work zones, to reduce fatalities and injuries, and to establish and promote a common set of safety tips for motorists. Generally, crashes occur when drivers speed through a work zone or do not pay attention to the changing road conditions and run into other vehicles, highway equipment, safety barriers, or drive off the road completely.

This year's focus was "Work Zone Speeding: A Costly Mistake". Speeding in work zones is against the law and puts those who work there, as well as those who drive there, in danger.

As the construction season starts, we need to be mindful of workers and anyone else traveling through work zones by slowing down, paying attention and driving safely. By following the rules of the road in work zones, we can keep everyone safe all construction season long.

RECRUITMENT NEWS

Welcome to **Tara Baird** and **Alyssa Crown** who joined the **Woodstock Recreation Center** this week as **Playroom Attendants**. Also, the **Woodstock Police Department** has hired three individuals to serve as experienced and trained on-call **Substitute Telecommunicators**, to provide relief on an as-needed basis. These include **Telecommunicators Tony Bittig, Kim Frasier and Kathy Kulik**.

Police Officer Mitch Falat has resigned his position as of last week. Final testing has been initiated for the next candidate on the current Police Officer Eligibility List to fill this opening at the **Woodstock Police Department**.

The following position remains open for application by qualified candidates:

Street Supervisor

Woodstock seeks experienced candidates for Street Supervisor, responsible for planning, scheduling and implementing a wide range of maintenance and public improvement activities, including all aspects of street construction, repair and maintenance, as well as maintenance and repair of all City vehicles and equipment. Exempt position reports to the Asst. Public Works Director and oversees 12-18 employees in the Street Division. Minimum qualifications: Associate degree in civil engineering, construction management, public administration or related field; five (5) years of street maintenance/construction/utility experience; three (3) years of supervisory experience; and a valid IL Class B CDL with air brakes endorsement and good record, required. An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered. Starting salary range: \$59,654 - \$76,160 DOQ, with excellent benefit package. Please send current resume and cover letter highlighting qualifications to: humanresources@woodstockil.gov no later than: **Friday, May 2, 2014**. Formal applications will be sent to the most qualified candidates. EOE.

Today, Friday, April 11th, is the final day for application for:

Water Meter Technician

Position performs a wide variety of manual labor duties and operates vehicles and equipment as required to read, install, and repair water meters; assist with sanitary sewer collection and water distribution maintenance; perform routine maintenance tasks; and other related duties as assigned. The work is performed under the supervision of the Sewer & Water Maintenance Division Foreman and Supervisor. Position normally works Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., with on call assignments and overtime, as required. Bilingual ability is required for this position.

Minimum Qualifications/Requirements: HS grad or equivalent; 1-2 years' maintenance and customer service experience; valid driver's license and good driving record; bilingual English and Spanish fluency required, including conversational Spanish ability. Starting salary rate: \$15.64 per hour in accordance with current Union contract. Position includes eligibility for full benefits package of group health insurance, benefit time and IMRF retirement plan. To apply, contact humanresources@woodstockil.gov or visit Woodstock City Hall **no later than Friday, April 11, 2014**. EOE

BASEBALL, SOFTBALL AND SOCCER FIELD USAGE ON THE RISE

Recreation Coordinator Alan Dunker has been busy over the last couple of weeks entering all the field usage requests from the twelve user groups that account for about 97% of all field usage for the city of Woodstock. A busy day will have up to 29 locations being reserved, some with multiple rentals from different groups. All reservations being entered individually as to what group is using it, what time they need, whether it's for a game or practice and any specific requests for the field. After all reservations are entered a weekly report is sent out to the Park Division and all the user groups to confirm which fields are being used and what needs to be done to each field.

Alan and the Recreation Department work closely with **Parks Supervisor Bob Hoadley** and the rest of the Parks Department crew to ensure all user groups have their fields reserved and prepped with the right dimensions.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, April 15 – Opera House Advisory Commission, 4:30PM, Opera House
Tuesday, April 15 – City Council Meeting, 7PM, Council Chambers
Wednesday, April 16 – Transportation Commission, 7PM, Council Chambers

QUOTE

Procrastination is opportunity's assassin.

Victor Kiam

HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGE: SPRING FLING CELEBRATION TIME

Whether the reason you're feeling flushed and light-headed has to do with the time change, seasonal allergies or hormones, the overall effect of the physical changes this time of year is what many folks call "Spring Fever."

"Spring fever is not a definitive diagnostic category," says Michael Terman, director of the Center for Light Treatment and Biological Rhythms at Columbia University Medical Center. "But I would say it begins as a rapid and yet unpredictable fluctuating mood and energy state that contrasts with the relative low [of the] winter months that precede it."

Since the mid-1980s researchers have focused on the seasonal effect on moods, with the emergence of a diagnostic label for winter depression, seasonal affective disorder (SAD). No one knows the exact cause of SAD, Terman says, but there are distinct patterns of winter depression lifting in the spring. And the key for that rise in mood, he argues, is the earlier onset of morning light. He has shown that there is more depression on the western edges of time zones in the U.S., where the sun rises later.

So open those curtains and let the sun shine in! Sit outside for lunch whenever possible or take a walk before or after work. The additional sunshine and fresh air are bound to increase your energy and give you a new perspective. Enjoy Spring...we've certainly earned it!





FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR SPRING DANCE RECITAL

The **Recreation Department's** Spring Dance Recital is set for April 17 at 6:30PM at WHS. Program Coordinator **Renee Torrez** is finishing up preparations for a successful night.

Pictures were taken last week during the fifteen dance classes by DeWane Studio and will be distributed at the dress rehearsal on Tuesday, April 15 to all the dancers.

Tickets are on sale now at the Recreation Center; \$5 for adults and \$2 for children. Pre-sale tickets are available until Friday, April 11 at 9PM. Tickets will be available at the door and we are anticipating a full house!